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George Bracher to W S Hall, 10 May 1860

Sandhurst
Kangaroo Flat
May 10th/60

Dear Shakespear

I wrote you & enclosed Hy last Letter to me about a week since & I now forward you H's Letter by this Mail I have also received another Letter from him dated April 6th a copy of which I will send you verbatim, which is all that is in it concerning yourself.

(Copy)

"I will send all the news in an accompanying Letter and shall also write & remit Shake same time as yourself, please let him know this, he will then be on the look out."

We are still at Kangaroo flat where we intend to Winter if all is well we are not doing much at present the Cows are all dry & the calves will only fetch from 30/- to 40/- each I tried to sell two of the old Cows with Heifer Calves & a Yearling Heifer with them last Saturday at Auction & the most I was offered for the Lot there was £5-5-0 I was afterwards offered on my way home with them by a Kyneton Farmer £7-10-0 but I refused to sell under £8-0-0 I have had a great deal of trouble with them since I have been here I first hired a man to Tail them & in a few days he lost 4 cows & 2 calves for 3 weeks I then got a boy & he twice lost the whole Lot so I finished up with him by giving him a down right good Horsewhipping; so now I have turned them all adrift in the Bush to look after themselves, before my whole time was taken up in looking after those that were lost, there are two forward in Calf one will calve in 2 or 3 weeks, I am now trying my old game at carting once more, when the Cows calve we intend selling the Milk, so that bye & bye, what with the Milk & an odd job or two at carting I think we shall manage to knock out a crust, the old trade comes quite natural. We are camped on government ground but if we succeed this Winter we are thinking of buying a Town Lot just opposite to us from the Crown.

Fanny is very anxious when her money comes down for me to buy her an allotment.

Sarah says when you next come to Bendigo you are to pitch your Tent by the side of us for 2 or 3 days previous to your departure. We are all now in pretty good health. I am obliged to turn out every morning at ½ past 5 light the fire & get Breakfast ready by 6 because we have a boarder that always Breakfasts at that time & sometimes for fear I should be 5 minutes late Sarah turns me out at 2 - 3 & 4 oclock which is not so pleasant. Such is Life like a Ship on the Ocean always on the move. Sarah & the children desire to be kindly remembered to you.

Yours affectionately
G Bracher